

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1392

By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Frances Anne Gobble
Atkinson of Johnson County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened and deeply moved to learn of the passing of Frances "Fran" Atkinson; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Atkinson was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, affectionately known as Fran by her devoted listeners, Ms. Atkinson served with acumen and alacrity as owner and general manager of Johnson County Broadcasting and WMCT Radio, in which position she earned the respect of her employees and listeners alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of her community, Fran Atkinson donated her time and considerable talents to a number of civic organizations; she was an original member of the Johnson County Memorial Hospital Board, one of the founders of Save Haven, the chair of the 1996 Bicentennial Parade in Mountain City, host of WMCT's One-On-One with Fran Atkinson, an active participant in the Johnson County Republican Women Committee, and began the White Christmas Program that evolved into Helping Hands; and

WHEREAS, her tireless community service and dedication was recognized with her receipt of the 1999 Tennessee Hospital Association Community Service Award and the designation of "Fran" Atkinson Day in the Town of Mountain City and Johnson County on December 8, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Atkinson was an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church of Mountain City, which she served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Fran Atkinson was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Atkinson enjoyed the love and companionship of her husband, Thomas Atkinson, who, along with her parents; her daughter, Frances Anne Atkinson; her sister, Margia Gobble Wiggins; and her nephew, Justin Alexander Hollaway, preceded her in death; and

WHEREAS, Fran Atkinson was the proud mother of Janice Atkins Russell and special adopted son, Larry Greason; the loving sister of Janice Gobble Harry, Nancy Gobble Hollaway, Paul Samuel Gobble, Jr., and Harold Graves Gobble; the doting grandmother of Elizabeth Anne Russell and Emma Grace Russell; the special friend and sister of the heart of Venia Stout; and the devoted aunt of several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Atkinson leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Frances Anne Gobble Atkinson, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our deepest sympathy and offer our heartfelt condolences to the family of Fran Atkinson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.